

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
October 17, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: President Joyce Bowsbey, Vice President Dan Schneckenburger, Bob Meffley, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant, members of the press; and members of the public.

**Guests:** Scott Adams, Cecil County Sheriff; Raymond Lynn, Heroin Coordinator, Cecil County Sheriff's Office; and Rachel Temby, Park Ranger, Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area.

**OPEN SESSION – Elk Room**

**9:00 A.M.** –Council President Bowsbey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

**NOTE:** Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Vice President Schneckenburger, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of October 10, 2017, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Opioid Statistics Update**

Sheriff Scott Adams introduced Raymond Lynn, Heroin Coordinator, Cecil County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Lynn stated that the trends in drug use in Cecil County include the high impact on children of addicts, the predominance of Fentanyl, and addicts using multiple drugs. He reported that there have been 436 recorded overdoses in 2017 to date, with 380 surviving and 56 fatalities. He stated that 80% of overdoses are heroin related but other drugs like cocaine and benzodiazepines are making a comeback. He also described the use of secondary supplemental drugs such as antidepressants and alcohol are used to enhance the effects. He stated that there is a trend that users who are purchasing heroin or cocaine are actually receiving Fentanyl, which originates in China. The Baltimore and Philadelphia areas have the highest purity of drugs and that most drugs coming to Cecil County originate in Philadelphia. He presented statistics that showed the breakdown of drug use by communities, and recognized Lakeside and Hollingsworth Manor as the highest rate of users. There are also trends of drug distribution in commercial areas off of I-95 and Route 40. He stated that children aged 13 or 14 begin with alcohol and marijuana; move on to opioid prescriptions; and begin using heroin after they graduate. Most users tend to be in the ages of 21 to 40 years old. There is an equal number of male to female drug users. In Cecil County, 93% of drug addicts are Caucasian. He also reported that 250 lives have been saved by use of Narcan. Of the 35 fatalities, 74% were Fentanyl related and 14% were heroin. Sheriff Adams commented on protective equipment and updated protocols to protect law enforcement and first responders from dangerous drug exposures.

**Bohemia River State Park**

Rachel Temby, Park Ranger, Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area, provided an overview of plans for the new Bohemia River State Park. The new park is located south of the canal on 460 acres along the Bohemia River. The Department of Natural Resources and Maryland Park Services are overseeing its development. A small group of stakeholders will be appointed to

assist with its development plans. Ms. Temby described the property that includes waterfront, streams and forests. Plans for low impact passive recreational activities include trails, small ramp for launching kayaks, observing nature and fishing. Cecil County Government will be assisting with planning efforts, identifying needs, GIS data and tourist promotion. Ms. Temby stated that there are currently two access points off of Route 213. She invited Council Members to tour the property.

#### **Firefighters of Cecil County**

Councilman Meffley stated that he had received three letters from fire chiefs regarding their concern for proposed changes in the composition of the EMS Advisory Board. He stated that Karl Reichenbach, chairman of the board of directors of the Community Fire Company of Rising Sun will be meeting with the County Executive to discuss his concerns. Vice President Schneckeburger also stated that this subject was discussed at the Firemen's Association meeting. The association voted to oppose the draft proposal.

#### **Review of Legislative Agenda**

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided remarks about the rezoning case, File #2017-06, North East, LLC. Council questions and comments ensued.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory remarks on Bill No. 2017-19 Budget Transfer - Wastewater Capital Project Budget - I&I Meadowview, Cherry Hill, Highlands, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory remarks on Bill No. 2017-20 Budget Amendment - Wastewater Capital Project Budget - Elkton West Sanitary Sewer District - USDA Loan, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 45-2017 Approval- Transfer of Real Property - Town of Rising Sun - Rails to Trails, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 46-2017 Approval- Abandonment and Sale - Hayes Lane, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 50-2017 Appointment- Cecil County Ethics Commission- Wyatt Wallace, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 51-2017 Approval- Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund- Lidl, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 52-2017 Approval- Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund- Project Melo, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Council questions and comments ensued.

Resolution No. 54-2017 Appointment- Board of Parks and Recreation- Megan Coleman, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2017-17 Budget Appropriation and Budget Transfer - Board of Education Capital Project - Gilpin Manor Elementary School Replacement Project, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2017-18 County Council - Procurement - Exemption - Publication of Notices and Codification of Laws, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #44, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Council questions and comments ensued.

#### **Council Manager Report**

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. He reported on several issues at the state level.

#### **Council Member Comments**

Council President Bowsbey polled Council Members about who was attending the Watershed Improvement Plan committee meeting on Monday, October 23. Councilwoman Gregory plans to attend.

Council President Bowsbey polled Council Members about when they would like to tour the new Bohemia River State Park. They agreed to schedule the visit on Tuesday, October 24 after the Council work session and asked the Council Manager to confirm their request.

Councilwoman Gregory attended the North East School feeder meeting and commented on the impact of opioids on children. She invited Council Members to attend the Cecil County Public School Drug Prevention Community Seminars being held during November at county high schools. She attended the North East Town Commissioners meeting and commented on the health hazards of "vaping". She also attended the Fair Hill International and commented on the excitement of having a four star event in the future. Ms. Gregory also attended the Grand Prix in Elkton, Spooktacular Trunk or Treat in Rising Sun, and the Bainbridge Development Corporation annual meeting.

Vice President Schneckeburger attended the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting and commented on his disappointment that none of the county's priorities had been funded and the state's lack of support for any discussion about tolls. He attended the Delegation Legislative Request meeting and commented that the delegation should prioritize efforts to deal with the opioid crisis. He commented in support of United Way campaign in Cecil County. He will be attending the Chamber of Commerce Business Hall of Fame Gala.

Councilman Patchell attended the Fair Hill International and praised the event and the many volunteers. He attended the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting and commented on the loss of the MARC maintenance facility, which may discourage plans to connect the MARC train with SEPTA.

Councilman Meffley attended the North East Town Commissioners meeting and commented on discussion of their water bills and the completion of the bridge over AMTRAK. He attended the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting and commented on his disappointment of the state's lack of support for the MARC train maintenance facility in North East, Elkton train station renovation and lowering of toll fees. He also commented that state officials invited him to participate in monitoring of truck traffic on Route 213, which is intended to identify truck traffic that is avoiding tolls on Route 301. He also attended the Delegation Legislative Request meeting, Board of Realtors annual meeting, Fair Hill International, Grand Prix in Elkton. He attended the Bainbridge Development Corporation annual meeting and commented on the US Navy's intention to clean up contamination.

Council President Bowsbey attended the Local Management Board and commented on the effects of drug overdoses on families. She attended the Planning Commission and reported on actions taken on a text amendment, rezoning case, and three special exception applications.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**10:30 A.M.**

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, §3-305 (a) (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Gregory - Y, Bowsbey - Y.  
The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

**OPEN SESSION**

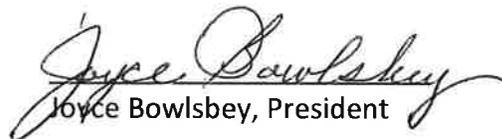
**10:38 A.M.**

The open session resumed at 10:38 a.m.

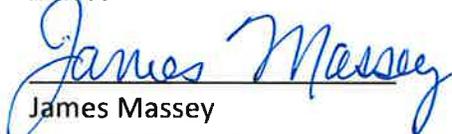
**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Councilman Meffley, seconded by Councilwoman Gregory, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 10:38 a.m.

Approved:

  
Joyce Bowsbey, President

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager